

South Dakota can once again have their voice in this great Chamber.

I would also like to thank our Secretary of State in South Dakota, Chris Nelson, who certified the election with great speed so that the interest of our State could be represented in this distinguished body. I would also like to say a grateful thank you to the staff of former Congressman Bill Janklow, who have continued to serve these past several months and have been true to the welcoming spirit of South Dakota.

There are too many to thank for this great honor: my grandparents, especially my Grampa Ralph Stiles, who is here with me today, who gave me his unconditional love and support; my parents, the strongest people I know who taught me to reach across disagreements and work for a common good; and the people of South Dakota, to whom I pledge that I will do everything I can to represent them honorably and to always do what is best for our entire State.

And lastly, while the months and years ahead are filled with great possibilities, the unsettling truth is that my standing here today was born from a tragedy. The opportunity for me to represent my State would not have happened if not for the heartache suffered by many. That reminder will be with me always.

But from great sorrow can come new beginnings for my State at this time in our Nation's history, for all of us as a people. I am humbled by this moment and by the trust and responsibility that South Dakota has placed in me. I will do my best, and I will always remember why I am here.

In the language of the Lakota people, "pilamaya," thank you, and may God bless this great House of the people.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Under clause 5(c) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath to the gentlewoman from South Dakota (Ms. HERSETH), the whole number of the House is adjusted to 435.

□ 1045

WELCOMING RABBI JOUI HESSEL, WASHINGTON HEBREW CONGREGATION, WASHINGTON, D.C.

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, it is a real pleasure to welcome a special guest to our House from Miami, Florida, who shared her message of prayer and inspiration with us today, Rabbi Jouï Hessel. We are happy to have the Rabbi and her wonderful family, who reside in my congressional district in Miami, Florida, with us here today.

Rabbi Hessel was ordained from the Hebrew Union College Jewish Institute

of Religion in New York in 2001. While in Rabbinical School in New York, she served several congregations and also served as the Education Intern at Leo Bacck Temple in Los Angeles, California.

Rabbi Hessel is currently serving at the Washington Hebrew Congregation right here in Washington, D.C., as associate Rabbi. She has been in that capacity since June of 2001 and is active in many programs, including youth activities and adult education. The Rabbi is currently working on an educational article for a book on Parenting Young Adult Children.

Thank you, Rabbi Jouï Hessel, for your spiritual leadership and for your prayers and for having such wonderful parents, who are my constituents.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1721. An act to amend the Indian Land Consolidation Act to improve provisions relating to probate of trust and restricted land, and for other purposes.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). The Chair will entertain 10 1-minute speeches per side.

NEW PRESCRIPTION DRUG CARD REDUCES COSTS FOR SENIORS

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, effective June 1, each senior on Medicare who would like one could get a Medicare prescription drug discount card. This card will be good for about a 20 percent discount in most local pharmacies.

What the senior could do is dial 1-800-Medicare or go to WWW.MEDICARE.GOV and find out which of the local drugstores has the best deal on Lipitor or Glucophage or whatever he or she uses on a regular basis, and then, if it works, if it is a good idea, invest anywhere from \$20 to \$30, in that neighborhood, and choose which card is the best and start enjoying a 20 percent discount.

This is a program that precedes the 2006 voluntary program which was signed by President Bush, passed by this House and the Senate and endorsed by the AARP to give seniors on Medicare a prescription drug benefit.

It is a voluntary program, it reduces drug costs by about 50 percent, and it is something that we did not have in Medicare as an option before. It is a very good program, and I invite seniors to call 1-800 Medicare and take a look at it.

OPPOSING OUTSOURCING OF JOBS

(Ms. WOOLSEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks and include therein extraneous material.)

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, my constituents write each week telling me about jobs that are being outsourced, asking me what is Congress doing about it. They are amazed and they are outraged that our President can support this policy, when over 1 million Californians are out of work.

I understand their concerns, especially when the Bush administration recently awarded a massive \$10 billion government contract to Accenture, a company incorporated in Bermuda, when two American-based companies actually bid for the contract. They also know that the President used outsourced workers in India to make phone calls for his Presidential campaign. All of this, Mr. Speaker, when 8.4 million people are out of work nationwide.

Outsourcing is bad economic policy, and I urge the House leadership to address this issue immediately.

TRANSITION TO IRAQI SELF-GOVERNMENT

(Mr. BURGESS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, to the new prime minister of Iraq, Dr. Ayad Allawi, let me say you are most welcome, sir. Dr. Allawi, in addition to being selected as the new prime minister for the country of Iraq, provided a very vociferous "thank you" to President Bush and the United States of America for ridding his country of the scourge of Saddam Hussein.

We have now seen two significant events this year, the standing up of the new Iraqi constitution, a constitution that respects majority rule but also respects the rights of the minority; a constitution that contains a robust bill of rights and the protection and the involvement of women in government. There is a clear goal understood by all who are involved in that process, to see the Iraqi people free and in charge of Iraq for the first time in generations.

America's task in Iraq is not only to defeat an enemy. It is to give strength to a friend, a free, representative government that serves the people and fights on their behalf. The sooner this goal is achieved, the sooner our job will be done.

The Iraqi interim government takes power on 30 June. It will serve for only 7 months until a new government is chosen through democratic elections to be held as soon as possible, no later than the end of January, 2005.

AMERICANS DESIRE CHANGE OF DIRECTION

(Ms. LOFGREN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1